

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EURE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 GAC-01 MBFR-03 SAJ-01

ACDA-19 IO-12 NIC-01 RSR-01 /116 W

----- 023633

O 241226 Z MAY 73

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1864

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

CINCEUR FOR POLAD & OPS IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD OPS & AEAGG- OCO IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAFE FOR POLAD & OPS IMMEDIATE

USELMLO IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 0905

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, MOPS, WB, UR

SUBJECT: PLANNED TWO- HOUR CLOSURE OF MARIENBORN CHECKPOINT

1. WEST BERLIN PRESS MAY 24 CARRIED MAY 23 RELEASE BY
GDR TRANSPORT MINISTRY ANNOUNCING THAT MARIENBORN
CHECKPOINT WOULD BE CLOSED FROM 1400 TO 1500, TODAY
DUE TO "BLASTING." COMMANDER U. S. CHECKPOINT HELMSTEDT
WENT TO SOVIET CHECKPOINT REQUESTING CLARIFICATION FROM
SOVIET DUTY OFFICER, WHO REPLIED THAT CHECKPOINT WOULD
BE CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC IN BOTH DIRECTIONS FROM
1400 TO 1600.

2. NO PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF THIS CLOSURE HAD BEEN
RECEIVED FROM SOVIETS AND BECAUSE IT IS OF DIFFERENT CHARACTER
THAN PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED CLOSURES FOR "BLASTING" OF 10-20
MINUTES DURATION, IT WAS DECIDED AFTER CONSULTATION WITH BRITISH
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AND FRENCH THAT CHAIRMAN PROTOCOL OFFICER (U. S.)
WOULD SEEK IMMEDIATE APPOINTMENT WITH SOVIET
COUNTERPART AND DELIVER FOLLOWING ORAL STATEMENT:

BEGIN TEXT: WE LEARNED FROM THE PRESS THIS MORNING
THAT THE MARIEBORN CHECKPOINT AREA WILL BE CLOSED
THIS AFTERNOON FOR BLASTING OPERATIONS. THE ALLIED
AUTHORITIES HAD RECEIVED NO NOTIFICATION OF SUCH
INTENTION FROM THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES. UPON INQUIRY
AT THE SOVIET CHECKPOINT. THE U. S. CHECKPOINT COMMANDER
WAS INFORMED THAT THE CHECKPOINT WOULD BE CLOSED TO
TRAFFICE IN BOTH DIRECTIONS FROM 1400 TO 1600. WE
RECOGNIZE THAT CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES AT MARIENBORN PRESENT
CERTAIN
DIFFICULTIES FOR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT, BUT IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY
OF THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES TO ENSURE THAT SUCH WORK IS CARRIED OUT
AT REASONABLE HOURS TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE VOLUME
OF TRAFFIC, THAT THERE IS THE MINIMUM POSSIBLE DELAY
OF TRAFFIC, AND THAT, IF NECESSARY, ALTERNATIVE
FACILITIES ARE PROVIDED.

THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR
ENSURING THE FREE PASSAGE OF ALLIED TRAFFIC AND IT IS
IMPERMISSIBLE THAT THE ALLIED AUTHORITIES SHOULD
RECEIVE INFORMATION REGARDING ACTIVITIES WHICH AFFECT
THEIR TRAFFIC THROUGH THE PUBLIC MEDIA RATHER THAN THROUGH A
COMMUNICATION FROM THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES.

WE EXPECT THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES TO ASSURE THAT
THE SITUATION IS AMELIORATED. END TEXT.

3. USCOB CONCURS. KLEIN

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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Draft Date: 24 MAY 1973
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980305
Subject: PLANNED TWO- HOUR CLOSURE OF MARIENBORN CHECKPOINT
TAGS: MOPS, PGOV, UR
To: BONN
CINCEUR FOR POLAD & OPS
CINCUSAFE FOR POLAD & OPS
CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD OPS & AEAGG- O
EUR
MOSCOW
NATO

SECSTATE WASHDC

USELMLO

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